

Remarks

The allowance of claims 25 and 26 is noted with appreciation as is the indicated allowability of claims 2-4, 14, 17, 18 and 23. By way of the foregoing amendments, claims 2, 4 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form, claim 15 has been amended to include the language of allowable claim 17, claim 21 has been amended to include the language of allowable claim 23, and the remaining claims have been amended to depend or already depend from a claim indicated to be allowable. In addition, the informalities noted by the Examiner have been corrected. Accordingly, all of the claims are now in proper form for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

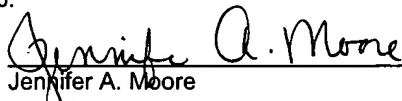
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper or thing referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: August 9, 2004


Jennifer A. Moore

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